GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4398
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2016
Newspaper Circulation
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newspapers verified for circulation during the last three years;

(b) whether the guidelines for verifying of circulation has been reviewed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether various newspaper/magazine publishers have not paid the required fee to the Press Council of India; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) Registrar of Newspapers for India has stated that verification for circulation of newspapers was not done during the year 2013-14. However, during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16, a total of 36 and 49 newspapers respectively, were verified for circulation.

(b) & (c) Yes sir, the guidelines for verification of circulation have been reviewed in the year 2016.

As per the amended guidelines, circulation check/verification shall be done by the team of RNI/PIB and DAVP officials nominated by the Registrar of Newspapers for India for this purpose along with certified panel of auditors (i.e. Chartered Accountants firms) who are either on the panel of ABC, CAG and RBI. The detailed guidelines are available at the link: http://rni.nic.in/Amended%20circulation%20Guidelines.pdf

(d) In the financial year 2015-16 out of 15086 demand Notices for Levy of fee, 2331 Newspapers/ Publications/ News Agencies have remitted the fee and rest 12755 are yet to pay Levy.

(e) Necessary action by way of reminder is being issued to the defaulters.

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